

# **Role of Tetra Tech EC (TtEC) in the Environmental Clean-Up of Alameda Point by the United States Navy**

Alameda City Council  
July 24, 2018



# Safety



- The Navy's top priority is public safety
- Property transferred at Alameda Point has been diligently investigated and cleaned up appropriately
  - People who live on, work at and visit Alameda Point are safe
  - Work is conducted with multiple layers of oversight including regulatory agencies and independent City review
  - Data reviewed by multiple entities to ensure accuracy and consistency





# Presentation Overview



1. Provide a summary of the Hunters Point Naval Shipyard situation
2. Outline the Navy's history and cleanup program at Alameda Point
3. Discuss the work performed by Tetra Tech EC (TtEC)  
–Subsidiary of larger Tetra Tech Company
4. Describe the oversight process which ensures data reliability and protection of human health & environment
5. Questions and answers



# Hunters Point Naval Shipyard



- 2012: Navy review of TtEC radiological sampling data found anomalous soil data results that could not be explained
- 2012/2013: TtEC re-performs soil surveys based on their assessment
  - Survey data recollected and re-analyzed
- 2013: Issues identified with building survey work
- 2014: TtEC issues report documenting their conclusions regarding anomalous soil data
  - CA Department of Public Health suspends unrestricted release recommendations for buildings
- Subsequently, TtEC employees came forward with specific claims of deliberate falsification of tests, improper work, and fraudulent recordkeeping regarding soil areas and buildings



# Hunters Point Naval Shipyard (Cont.)



- The Navy put the radiological program on hold for a comprehensive review
  - Navy, federal, state, and local regulatory agency technical team established to perform extensive data evaluation
  - Included support from group of experts consisting of independent contractors and a consortium of universities
- In 2017 the technical team concluded with a loss of confidence in TtEC Hunters Point Naval Shipyard radiological work
- Currently, a work plan is being reviewed by the public and regulatory agencies to allow for independent retesting
  - Independent 3<sup>rd</sup> party oversight contractor in place
- The Navy is taking actions against TtEC for its unsatisfactory and non-compliant work and aiding the Department of Justice in its efforts
  - Two former TtEC employees have received criminal sentences



# Differences: Alameda Point and Hunters Point



## Hunters Point Naval Shipyard

- Shipyard
- Naval Radiological Defense Laboratory for studies associated with atomic weapons testing
- Decontamination of ships from weapons testing
- Known fraud conducted by TtEC employees on radiological projects
- Confirmed allegations on radiological projects

## Alameda Point

- Airfield and aircraft re-work facilities
- Predominant source of radiological contamination from application, removal and disposal of aircraft equipment that utilized radioluminescent paint
- Data review found no evidence of fraud
- No anomalous or suspect data



# Former NAS Alameda History

Established  
as a Naval  
Air Station

**1936**

Radioluminescent paint  
application & removal activities

**1940's to 1970's**

Placed on  
BRAC List

**1993**

**1940**

Commissioned  
as NAS  
Alameda

**1997**

Operational  
Closure



"CAN SUCH A BIG MACHINE REALLY FLY?"

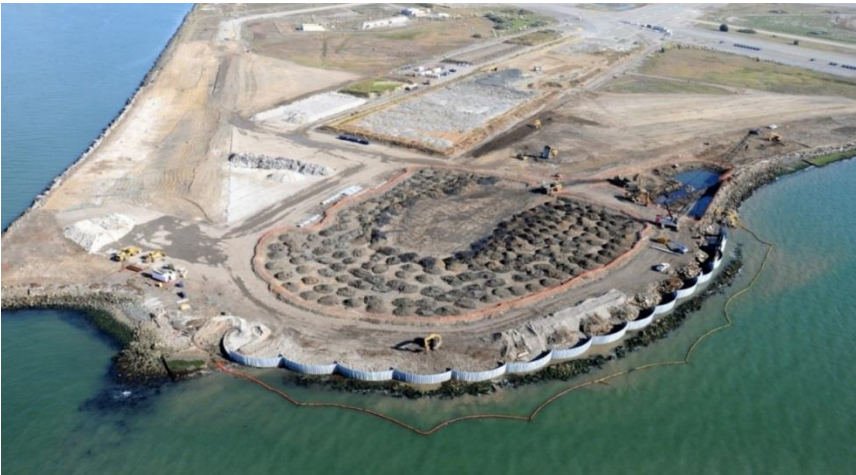
Photograph from Wide World



# Alameda Point Cleanup Program



- The Navy has conducted over 20 years of extensive investigation and cleanup
- The majority of our work has been soil and groundwater cleanup from non-radiological contaminants
- All work was done in compliance with federal and state regulations
- The Navy's cleanup program is designed to protect human health and the environment





# Historical Radiological Activities



Predominant activities at Alameda Point included:

- Application and removal of radioluminescent paint to aircraft dials/instruments
- Associated waste disposal

Areas investigated:

- Buildings with historical radiological use
- Sanitary sewer and storm drain lines
- Seaplane Lagoon
- Landfill/disposal areas





# Environmental Remediation



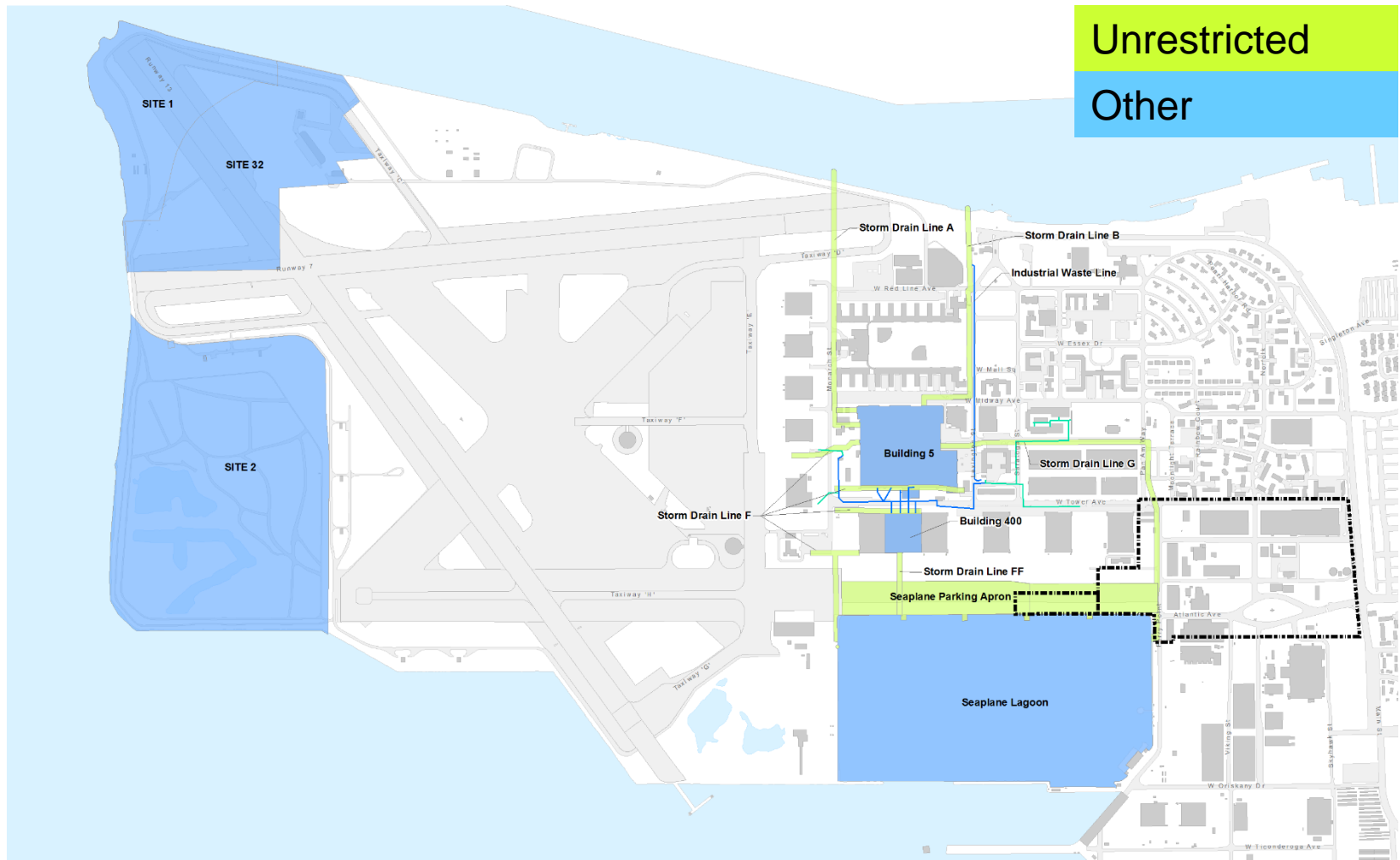
- Evaluate by sampling and scanning
- Remove sources, treatment or construction protective barriers
- Monitor the environment
  - Air monitoring
  - Equipment and personnel
- Confirmation scanning and sampling
- Performed in conjunction with regulatory agency oversight:
  - U.S Environmental Protection Agency
  - Department of Toxic Substances Control
  - California Department of Public Health
  - Regional Water Quality Control Board
- Reports to agencies and the City of Alameda
  - Publicly available







# TtEC Radiological Work Areas





# Alameda Point Data Reliability



- Multiple layers of review have shown Alameda Point data is reliable
- Data is reviewed by:
  - Navy BRAC and Radiological Affairs Support Office (RASO) staff
  - U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
  - California Department of Public Health
    - Performs independent scanning/sampling for “unrestricted” areas
  - California Department of Toxic Substances Control
  - City of Alameda consultant(s)
- Many different contractors have produced consistent data
- Navy (RASO) experts found the anomalous radiological results at Hunters Point
  - Similar radiological data review found no irregularities at Alameda Point
  - Review of non-radiological data found no irregularities at Alameda Point
- An independent 3rd party firm has been added to oversee radiological fieldwork



# Continued Commitment



- The Navy has been and remains dedicated to ensuring all property at Alameda Point is safe for transfer and subsequent community use
- Work is coordinated and conducted in an open and transparent fashion with input and oversight by multiple independent agencies
- Community engagement and input desired and achieved through Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) meetings and annual community tour
- Reports and information regarding the Navy's clean-up program at Alameda point is readily available to the public
  - Alameda Point Information Repository
  - Alameda Free Library Information Repository
  - [www.bracpmo.navy.mil](http://www.bracpmo.navy.mil)





# For More Information



## Navy Resources

### **BRAC Environmental Coordinator**

Cecily Sabedra  
(619) 524-4569  
cecily.sabedra@navy.mil

### **Alameda Point Information Repository**

950 West Mall Square  
Building 1, Room 230  
Alameda, California 94501

### **Alameda Free Library Repository**

1550 Oak Street  
Alameda, CA 94501

**[www.bracpmo.navy.mil](http://www.bracpmo.navy.mil)**

## Regulatory Resources

### **EPA Region 9**

Xuan-Mai Tran  
(415) 972-3002  
tran.xuan-mai@epa.gov

### **Department of Toxic Substances Control**

Emily Mortazavi  
(510) 540-3732  
emily.mortazavi@dtsc.ca.gov

### **Regional Water Quality Control Board**

Yemia Hashimoto  
(510) 622-2756  
yemia.hashimoto@waterboard.ca.gov